

Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-02

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FM AMCONSUL KADUNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2851

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, BPRO, EAGR, NI

SUBJECT: AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN NIGERIAN FEEDLOT

DEPT PASS OPIC FOR HENDERSON

REF: KADUNA 672 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM DR. MAGAJI TO HENDERSON DATED
AUGUST 27: QUOTE I AM DIRECTED TO REFER TO MR. A.C. KELLY'S LETTER
OF 5TH JULY, 1974.

2. I HAVE CONTACTED THE OTHER MINISTRIES CONCERNED AND THE GENERAL
VIEWS WERE AS FOLLOWS:-

(A) BENUE PLATEAU STATE GOVERNMENT WOULD PARTICIPATE AND INVEST
INITIALLY 40 PERCENT OF THE SHARE CAPITAL. THIS MAY BE TRANSFERRED
TO NIGERIAN PRIVATE INTEREST IF, AND WHEN AVAILABLE.

(B) BISICHI JANTAR CO. (NIG.) LTD. WOULD CONFIRM TO US, BY ABOUT
THE END OF SEPTEMBER, 1974, CONCERNING THE USE OF THE WATER
RESERVOIR. IT IS VERY PROBABLE THAT THEY WOULD ALLOW THE TAPPING OF
THEIR WATER RESOURCES.

(C) AN AVERAGE OF 137,000 TRADE (SLAUGHTER) CATTLE ORIGINATE
FROM AND/OR PASS THROUGH THIS STATE EVERY YEAR. THEREFORE, AS
MENTIONED BEFORE, THE CERTAINTY OF "AN ADEQUATE UNIFORM CATTLE
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SUPPLY WOULD DEPEND ON THE INCENTIVES OFFERED TO DEFLECT THESE

CATTLE AWAY FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL MARKETS FURTHER SOUTH. HOWEVER, IT WAS ALSO FELT THAT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE IN THE LONG TERM TO ESTABLISH A BREEDING RANCH TO SUPPLEMENT THE CONTRACT SUPPLIES.

3. IN THE CALCULATIONS A VITAL FIGURE WAS MISSING - THE SELLING PRICE OF A POUND (LB) OF BEEF TO THE CONTRACTING PETROLEUM COMPANY AT PORT HARCOURT. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE THE MARGIN OF PROFITABILITY WITHOUT IT. MR. PETER CHAVEAS OF THE U.S. CONSULATE PROMISED TO CONTACT YOU (BY TELEX) AND TO TRANSMIT THESE OBSERVATIONS. I HOPE HE HAS DONE SO ALREADY.

4. FINALLY I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER AND ENTER INTO FIRM AGREEMENT AS SOON AS YOU PROVIDE THE DETAILS. END QUOTE.
TRAIL

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